

Attorney Docket No.: J2071(C)
Serial No.: 10/559,115
Filed: June 8, 2006
Confirmation No.: 1305

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A cosmetic skin lightening composition, comprising 0.1 – 50% by weight of extracts of plants from the genera *Symplocos* and *Rubia*; the extract of *Symplocos* being selected from *Symplocos recemosa*, *Symplocos paniculata*, *Symplocos cochinchinensis* or mixtures thereof; the extract of *Rubia* being *Rubia cordifolia* wherein the extracts are primary skin lightening agents within the composition.

Claim 2 (Original) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 1, additionally comprising 0.1 – 10% by weight of a sunscreen.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 1, further comprising 0.1 – 10% by weight of one or more secondary skin whitening-lightening agents.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 1, wherein the extract of *Symplocos* is *Symplocos recemosa*.

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Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 2, wherein the sunscreen is selected from 4-tertiary butyl-4'-methoxy dibenzoylmethane, 2-ethyl hexyl methoxy cinnamate, micronized titanium dioxide, or micronized zinc oxide.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 3, wherein the secondary skin whitening agent is niacin, niacinamide, ~~or a precursor thereof~~ niacinamide ascorbate, extract of placenta, hydroquinone, kojic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, ascorbic acid, lactic acid, glycolic acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, ferulic acid or retinol.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 1 further comprising extracts of *Glycyrrhiza*, *Coriandum*, *Acorus* or mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 1 wherein the *Symplocos* or *Rubia* is extracted from the bark of the plant.

Claim 9 (New) The cosmetic skin lightening composition of claim 3 wherein the secondary skin whitening-lightening agent is niacin, niacinamide or ~~niacinamide~~ niacinamide ascorbate.